

MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 18, 2015

Members in Attendance: Beverly Bevilacqua, Cynthia DeAngelis, Michael Rademacher, Maureen St. Hilaire, Susan James, Patrick Quinn

Members Absent: Kerrie Fallon, Susan Savage Tennant

Others Present: Annie LaCourt, Former Selectmen, James Sanna, Editor Arlington Advocate, Jack Jones, ADA Coordinator, Darcy Devney, Member Vision 20/20.

Handicapped Parking on Massachusetts Avenue:

Darcy Devney expressed her concern regarding the low number of handicapped parking spaces along Massachusetts Avenue. Darcy said that in her opinion an additional ten handicapped spaces added to the current five handicapped spaces on Massachusetts Avenue in East Arlington would be more reasonable than the current number. Darcy said that Arlington has a high population of disabled residents. Mike Rademacher said that it should not be difficult to add handicapped parking spaces after the project is completed. To add handicapped spaces at this time Mike said would require a change order and could possibly delay the completion of the project. Mike said it should be noted that there are about the same number of legal spaces now as there were prior to the Massachusetts Avenue Project. However prior to the Mass. Ave. Project some autos would squeeze into unmarked non legal spaces which resulted in the appearance that there were more parking spaces. Mike said it is difficult to determine where to install handicapped parking spaces where there is linear parking as compared to a parking lot. Cynthia DeAngelis said that the Commission should solicit feedback from the community regarding the location of handicapped parking spaces. Annie LaCourt suggested that the Commission on Disability request to be placed on an upcoming Selectmen's Meeting's Agenda in order to discuss ideas for adding additional handicapped parking spaces along Massachusetts Avenue.

Warrant Articles:

Jack Jones said that if the Commission decides to submit a warrant article for the FY 2016 Annual Town Meeting it would need to be submitted between December 1, 2015 and January 29, 2016. Jack passed out a list of warrant articles that had been submitted in previous years by the Commission.

True Story Theatre:

Annie LaCourt and Susan James discussed how the True Story Theatre could help the Commission. The Commission discussed inviting a representative of the True Story Theatre to the January 2016 Commission Meeting. The Commission agreed to discuss at their December Meeting ideas as to ways in which the True Story Theatre could benefit the Commission. The Commission agreed that this could be a launching pad to involve more individuals within the

Community working with the Commission. Cynthia DeAngelis recommended that the Commission plan a retreat in order to discuss future Commission goals.

Pedestrian Crossing Signals at Jason ST. and Massachusetts Avenue:

Mike Rademacher said that several individuals expressed concern as to the way these traffic signals had been recently reconfigured. The signals were reconfigured in order to reduce accidents from traffic taking a left turn from Jason Street with oncoming traffic from Mill Street. Mike said that the signals have since been changed back to their original configuration.

Meeting Minutes October 21, 2015:

Mike Rademacher moved to approve the October 21, 2015 Meeting Minutes. SO VOTED

Massachusetts Avenue Corridor Project:

Mike Rademacher said that Eversource needs to finish some cutovers and connect the new controllers. Jack Jones said that he has received complaints that the audible signals have not yet been activated. Mike said that when the new controllers are installed and activated this will enable the audible signals to work.

Snow & Ice Removal:

Mike Rademacher said that the Town will attempt to find a contractor interested in clearing snow from sidewalks where residents or businesses have not cleared. The cost in clearing snow from these sidewalks would be charged to the business or residence owner where the sidewalk is located. Mike said that in past years it has been difficult in finding contractors interested in doing this type of snow clearing work. According to Mike most contractors want to remain in their truck and are less interested in shoveling snow.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 P.M.